

FACT SHEET 6

DO'S AND DON'TS WHEN SELECTING ACCOMMODATIONS

Do... make accommodation decisions based on individualized needs.

Don't... make accommodations decisions based on whatever is easiest to do (e.g., preferential seating).

Do... select accommodations that reduce the effect of the disability to access instruction and demonstrate learning.

Don't... select accommodations unrelated to documented student learning needs or are intended to give students an unfair advantage.

Do... be certain to document instructional and assessment accommodation(s) on the IEP or 504 plans.

Don't... use an accommodation that has not been documented on the IEP or 504 plans.

Do... be familiar with the types of accommodations that can be used as both instructional and assessment accommodations.

Don't... assume that all instructional accommodations are appropriate for use on assessments.

Do... be specific about the "Where, When, Who, and How" of providing accommodations.

Don't... simply indicate an accommodation will be provided "as appropriate" or "as necessary."

Do... refer to state accommodations policies and understand implications of selections.

Don't... check every accommodation possible on a checklist simply to be "safe."

Do... evaluate accommodations used by the student.

Don't... assume the same accommodations remain appropriate year after year.

Do... get input about accommodations from teachers, parents, and students, and use it to make decisions at IEP team or 504 planning committee meetings.

Don't... make decisions about instructional and assessment accommodations alone.

Do... provide accommodations for assessments routinely used for classroom instruction.

Don't... provide an assessment accommodation for the first time on the day of a test.

Do... select accommodations based on specific individual needs in each content area.

Don't... assume certain accommodations, such as extra time, are appropriate for every student in every content area.